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23-8 US R
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ACTION: IO-18

INFO: OCT-01 EUR-20 NEA-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-08 L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20

USIA-12 SCA-01 PPT-02 SY-03 RSR-01 /129 W
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R 100922Z JUL 71
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3624
INFO USMISSION USUN

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SUBJECT: RABBI KAHANE PLEADS GUILTY

REF: USUN 1857

1. IN FRONT PAGE DIGEST OF NEWS AGENCY REPORTS, PRAVDA, JULY 10 HAS ONE SENTENCE COVERAGE OF RABBI KAHANE'S GUILTY PLEA TO FEDERAL BOMB CONSPIRACY CHARGES.

2. COMMENT: IF, AS APPEARS, LIKELY FROM REFTEL, JUDGE IMPOSES PROBATIONARY SENTENCE, SOVIETS LIKELY INQUIRE WHY SUCH MILD SENTENCE HANDED DOWN AFTER DEFENDANT ACKNOWLEDGED OWN GUILT. IN FACT, IF JDL ACTIVITIES CONTINUE AFTER KAHANE SENTENCED, PRESUMING HE RECEIVES PROBATION, SOVIETS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CHARGE THAT MILD SENTENCE IS ADDITIONAL PROOF OF OFFICIAL US "CONNIVANCE" IN JDL ACTIVITIES. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ADDITIONAL DETAILS SURROUNDING RABBI'S GUILTY PLEA AND TALKING POINTS FOR USE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS ABOUT LIKELY SENTENCE. KLOSSON

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